

SHAW ACCEPTS POST

Iowa Will Become Gage's Successor in the Cabinet.

FORMAL APPOINTMENT NOT YET MADE

Governor Admits His Readiness to Accept, but Says Little.

OPPOSITION TALKED OF AMONG BANKERS

Friends of Secretary of Agriculture Regard the Selection Unlucky.

BELIEVE IT MEANS RETIREMENT OF WILSON

Impression that President Desires to Dispense with Head of Agricultural Department—Fear of Friction.

DES MOINES, Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Governor Shaw, who has been tendered the position of secretary of the treasury by President Roosevelt, declared at a late hour tonight:

"I have not been notified of my appointment. I know nothing more than I did yesterday as to the matter. I was asked to state if I would accept the place and have signified that I would, but have not received any formal tender of the position. Until I do I have nothing further to say."

The governor spent the day very quietly with his family. They were in their apartments in the Victoria until late in the day, when they went to dine with friends and did not return until late. He did not meet with any of his business or political associates during the day. His biennial message to the state legislature as governor has only just been made and in the next two weeks it is expected that he will put in a large part of his time preparing his message. His successor will be inaugurated in three weeks, and Governor Shaw will not be able to get off to Washington to take up his new duties before that time.

It is known that Governor Shaw expected to return to Des Moines, and had been making his preparations to return in January. In the fall he sent his children to Des Moines to school, so they would not have to make a change in the middle of the term. He had ordered extensive improvements on his town house in Des Moines. Mrs. Shaw stated today that while she had not relinquished the idea of going back to Des Moines to live she was not sure she would like the change to Washington.

Among those who have opposed Governor Shaw politically there has been some indication of a desire to throw obstacles in the way of his securing the place in the cabinet, and it was stated today that the bankers of the state might protest against the selection of Governor Shaw on the grounds that he has opposed a bill to compel private banks to report to other banks.

It is known now among the intimate friends of Governor Shaw that he has been heated about accepting the portfolio informally tendered him by the president through Senator Allison, largely because of financial considerations.

Looks at Financial Side.

Governor Shaw and his family have always been accustomed to frugality in their private lives and do not relish the idea of going to Washington, where they must change their mode of living.

Notwithstanding the desire of the Iowa leaders to keep Secretary Wilson in the cabinet, and the general belief that they would allow nothing to be done that would endanger the position of Wilson, information was received here today from the close personal friends of Wilson in Washington that the secretary of agriculture would certainly tender his resignation in case Shaw goes into the cabinet.

This is not because there is any disagreement between them nor because they could not work in perfect harmony, but Wilson and his friends believe that the invitation to Shaw to join the cabinet ought to be taken by Wilson as a personal compliment to him or anything that would indicate that those who have the confidence of the president have ignored Wilson's interests, would be resented by the republicans of the state.

But inasmuch as the tender has come from the president himself and is a personal compliment to Governor Shaw, rather than a compliment to the state or recognition of any political claims of the state, it is believed that the tender will be accepted.

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DOUBLES CHARITABLE FUNDS

Emperor William Increases His Christmas Bounty and Subscriptions.

Berlin, Dec. 25.—Emperor William, yesterday, tossed several three and four-mark pieces to poor-looking persons whom he passed. The emperor's Christmas bounty is never limited, but this year he has doubled his usual subscriptions to charitable funds.

NAVAL REVIEW AT CORONATION

Foreign Warships Invited to Take Part in Feature of Ceremonies.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Standard hears that an important feature of the coronation ceremonies will be a naval review at Spithead, on an unprecedented large scale, to which foreign warships will be invited.

SAYS STEAD'S THEORY IS BAD

English Press Declare British Union with America Beyond Reason.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Daily News this morning, in an editorial discussing William Stead's pamphlet on "The Americanization of the World," declares that Mr. Gladstone's theory that the United States would be the Great Britain of the premier world is a bad one.

YIELDS TO RUSSIA'S DESIRE

German Government Proposes Change in Tariff to the Committee.

Berlin, Dec. 25.—The government, yielding to Russia's uncompromising attitude regarding the tariff bill, will propose, when the committee having the matter in charge meets, that the minimum grain duties be struck out. These minimum duties were put in through the influence of the agrarians, who desired to fix a limit under which concessions could not be made in the commercial treaty negotiations.

FORM NEW BURGERH CORPS

Lord Kitchener Organizes New Wings of His Transvaal Army.

Pretoria, Dec. 25.—The formation of a new burgerh corps to be known as National Scouts, has been decided upon among the surrendered burgerhs. In view of numerous meetings and applications, General Lord Kitchener has authorized the creation of fresh wings to operate in the southern and eastern Transvaal under prominent and eastern leaders of the burgerhs themselves. It is stated that many of the recent successes of the British is due to the co-operation of Sellers and Cronje's commands, acting under General Bruce Hamilton.

FINE CHRISTMAS IN LONDON

King and Prince Victoria Attend Services in the Royal Chapel.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Christmas in London was fairly fine, but the heavy snow returned from Scotland. The king, with the Princess Victoria, attended service in the morning at the Chapel Royal in St. James palace and then dined with the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Clarence house. The queen sent an enormous quantity of toys, with autograph cards, to the children's hospitals in London, and the royal family made generous gifts to other hospitals. King Edward sent additions to the dinners of all the regiments of household troops.

DESIRES ENGLISH RESIDENCE

Cecil Rhodes Wants Dalham Hall Home for His Occasional Visits.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—According to a dispatch from Cairo to the Daily Telegraph, Cecil Rhodes does not contemplate a permanent residence in Dalham hall, but the establishing of a permanent residence in London, and the purchase of the estate so that he might have an agreeable residence on his occasional visits to England.

TALK OF BARRETT'S RETURN

Say He Left When Discussion of Important Questions Commenced.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—El Tiempo, a clerical organ, says that the diplomatic circles and politicians are commenting on the return to the United States of Hon. John Barrett at the time when the conference had just begun the discussion of important and fundamental questions. El Tiempo says it is now coming to be believed that at Washington there is discontent over the fact that the Latin nations do not show facility in accepting the leadership of the United States.

DOES NOT SANCTION TREATY

Bolivian Congress Closes Without Agreeing to Arbitrate Peru Controversy.

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 25.—(Via Galveston.)—Advices from Lapaz, capital of Bolivia, say congress closed Monday without sanctioning the treaty of arbitration on the matter of the controversy between Bolivia and Peru, but sanctioned the contract with a Bolivian company formed in London for the leasing of territory in Acre.

POPE LEO CELEBRATES MASS

Venerable Head of Catholic Church Gains in Physical Strength.

ROME, Dec. 25.—The pope celebrated midnight mass at the Vatican last night and assisted at two other masses. The health of his holiness has improved and he will resume diplomatic audiences tomorrow.

CHRISTMAS FETE AT PARIS

American Children Have Tree and Receive Many Presents in French Capital.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The weather was fine and the boulevards were thronged with people who were visiting the toy fair. American children in Paris were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. M. H. DeYoung of San Francisco, who gave a fete today in their apartments at the Continental hotel. An immense Christmas tree laden with glittering toys had been erected in one of the rooms. United States Ambassador Porter and Mrs. Porter and Consul General Grew and Mrs. Grew were present at the distribution of gifts and a constant stream of children left the hotel, carrying many toys which Mr. and Mrs. DeYoung had brought especially from America.

BOY DEFENDS HIS MOTHER FROM ASSAULT

By Drink-Crazed Husband.

BRAZIL, Ind., Dec. 25.—In defending his mother from an assault by her drink-crazed husband, Theodore Watkins, colored, 13 years of age, shot and killed his father, Richard Watkins, tonight at their home on South Corest avenue. Watkins had attacked his wife with a hatchet. The boy went to the police station, related the circumstances of the tragedy and was locked up.

CHRISTMAS IN BETHLEHEM

Devout Worshipers Held Impromptu Service in Sacred City.

CROWDS AT THE CHURCH OF NATIVITY

Solemn Scenes Around the Supposed Birthplace of Christ, Tomb of Rachel and Other Memorable Places.

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 25.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Under a clear sky, but in a chill air, yesterday people drove here over five miles of excellent road from Jerusalem in about thirty minutes. One mile before reaching this town they stopped at the tomb of Rachel, one of the saddest shrines of Palestine, where the poor European customers mingled with the bright Oriental dressed and undressed. When Bethlehem was reached crowds were straggling in from Jerusalem and all the neighboring towns. Many traveled from Europe, some even from America, to join the imposing ceremonies on this sanctified ground.

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Dowie's Brother-in-Law Thought to Be More Determined Than Ever.

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Mrs. McKinley Passes Day Alone and Receives Many Flowers and Presents.

CANTON, O., Dec. 25.—Mrs. McKinley spent Christmas day alone at her home. She was urged to join the Barber family in their Christmas dinner at the old Saxon homestead, but declined to do so. She did not wish to be forcibly reminded of the Christmas days of the past, as she would be by such a dinner.

EFFORT TO REGAIN PALESTINE

Movement to Re-Establish Hebrew People Under Government of Their Own.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—An enthusiastic meeting of Hebrews was held tonight at Cooper Union in celebration of the fifth international Zionist congress, which will open tomorrow at Basel, Switzerland. Much progress was reported by the various speakers in the movement to re-establish the Hebrew people in Palestine under a government of their own.

ALGER'S HEALTH IMPROVES

Doctor Announces that the General Has Safely Passed First Critical Stage.

DETROIT, Dec. 25.—Tonight Dr. G. C. Jennings, who is attending General R. A. Alger, said to the Associated Press:

GIGANTIC TROLLEY SYSTEM

Reported Scheme to Connect New York and St. Louis by Motor.

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THREE PERSONS ASPHYXIATED

Chimney Fire Fills House with Fumes of Burned Natural Gas.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 25.—A chimney fire, obstructed with soot, which caused a tightly closed house to fill with the fumes of burned natural gas, caused the death of three persons. The victims were George Schaffer and Anna James here tonight. Henry Anderson is still unconscious from asphyxiation and cannot recover. Schaffer was a wealthy grocer, aged 65 years, and Anderson was an aged friend whom he had taken to his home. A nephew of Schaffer, who went to the house with Christmas presents this morning, broke in the door and found the unconscious forms of the men and the house-keeper.

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UNITED STATES WINS SUIT

Government Acquires Land at Pearl Harbor—Hawaiians Criticize President's Message.

OMAHA MAN IN TITLE CASE

Edward Stricker Said to Hold Claim to Rich Estate.

SUIT FOR THE OLD LIBERTY HALL SITE

Elgin Woman Claims to Be Heir of Property Valued at Two Hundred and Fifteen Million Dollars.

ELGIN, Ill., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Investigation into the claim of Mrs. Harry Goddard of this city, that she is the direct heir to a vast estate in the heart of Philadelphia valued at \$215,000,000, goes to substantiate the validity of her claims. The property is now the site of the United States mint and the postoffice and the old Liberty hall. Mrs. Goddard's story of her relationship to the original holder of the property, Colonel Henry Baker, is straightforward and goes far to show that she is a direct heir of the ex-British officer.

During the revolutionary war Colonel Baker was an officer in the British army and was made a prisoner by the colonial forces. When, as a captive, he saw the suffering and misery which were at that time prevalent in this country he forewore his allegiance to England and took up the cause of the struggling colonial army, in which he readily won a colonelcy.

Colonel Baker, at the close of the war, received as his compensation, in lieu of money, 360 acres of land, which is now the very heart of Philadelphia. He held the property for a number of years and finally leased it to the government for a period of ninety-nine years.

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CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair Thursday and Friday; Light, Variable Winds.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

5 a. m. 29 1 p. m. 41

6 a. m. 29 2 p. m. 41

7 a. m. 28 3 p. m. 42

8 a. m. 28 4 p. m. 42

9 a. m. 28 5 p. m. 42

10 a. m. 28 6 p. m. 41

11 a. m. 30 7 p. m. 39

12 m. 37 8 p. m. 38

12 m. 37 9 p. m. 38

ADOPTS THE SHELDON PLAN

Tokio, Japan, Practices Buy Plan for a Christian Newspaper.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—A new Christian daily newspaper is to be established in Tokio, Japan, the first in the world. Rev. Charles Sheldon of Topeka has furnished the idea, "In His Steps," and Mr. U. Kawai is the Japanese newspaper man who is to carry out Rev. Mr. Sheldon's ideas in practical form.

SHATTERS THE WINDOW GLASS AND FIRES

Men.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—Strange men fired about twenty shots into a saloon at the corner of Broadway and Carr streets early this morning. Two men were wounded, nearly all the glass in the front of the saloon was shattered and the fixtures were badly damaged by the bullets.

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